# **Eurostar Service Quality Performance Report 2012-13**

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# 1) Travel information and ticket sales

#### **Before travel**

Customers can request a copy of our Conditions of Carriage from the Traveller Care Team or find them on **eurostar.com**.

Our train timetables are always available online, at **eurostar.com**.

Information on ticket prices and conditions are always available via <a href="mailto:eurostar.com">eurostar.com</a>, and can also be obtained from our ticket offices and contact centres, details of which can be found at the bottom of this document.

Information on accessibility, access conditions and availability of onboard facilities for disabled people and people with reduced mobility is available on request from all ticket offices and on <a href="mailto:eurostar.com">eurostar.com</a>.

Information on accessibility and access conditions for bicycles is also available on **eurostar.com**.

Information about incidents which cause significant disruption (i.e. delays of more than 60 minutes to more than one service) is available on **eurostar.com**.

When services are severely disrupted, we will aim to issue information through travel bulletins on local radio and television, and also through social media such as Twitter. Customers can also opt in (at the time of booking) to receive text messages informing them about possible delays, prior to their arrival at the departure station. In the event of a delay in which customers are eligible for compensation, this system is also used to inform customers about who they need to contact to receive this.

Information about our travel classes and availability of onboard services is available via **eurostar.com**.

To find out about procedures for reclaiming lost luggage customers can visit **eurostar.com** or contact the station where the item was last seen or from which the train departed.

## **During the journey**

All our trains have clear signage above the internal doors at the end of each coach, giving information about the location and availability of onboard toilets and the bar buffet. Customers can also ask any member of the Eurostar onboard team for this information.

Information regarding the next station will be announced onboard by our train managers.

In the case of delays the train manager will announce information at appropriate intervals.

The train manager will also make announcements about main connecting services.

Safety guideline leaflets can be found onboard next to each luggage rack section, and the train manager will also make announcements shortly before departing from Paris, Brussels and London. Further announcements are made shortly after departure from our intermediate stations before entering the Channel Tunnel. Train managers can also be contacted at all times via the team at the bar buffet.

#### **Tickets**

### **Buying tickets**

Customers can buy tickets for travel in advance or on the day of travel by visiting <u>eurostar.com</u>, by calling one of our contact centres, or by visiting one of our ticket offices in person.

#### **Ticket refunds**

Refunds of unused tickets are made through the original point of sale, provided the ticket purchased is refundable. Therefore if the customer bought the ticket on **eurostar.com** and it is refundable, it will be refunded via **eurostar.com**.

If the customer has already taken part of a ticketed journey and is requesting a refund as a result of a delay, the refund is made by our Traveller Care Team. Such refunds will be made within one month.

If, before departure, it is reasonably expected that there will be a delay of more than 60 minutes on the Eurostar service, customers will be entitled to either a full refund or to postpone their journey to a later date. To claim the refund or change the booking customers simply need to contact our call centre with details of the original ticket.

## 2. Punctuality and cancellations

At Eurostar we set ourselves high standards of train punctuality and make every effort to get passengers to their destination on time. Our target is to ensure:

82% of trains arrive within 5 minutes of their scheduled arrival time 92% of trains arrive within 15 minutes of their scheduled arrival time

There are occasions, usually outside of our control, where trains may be delayed or disrupted. When this is the case, this is how we will help customers:

#### **Delays of 30 – 60 minutes affecting more than one service:**

Updated announcements will be made within the station every 10 minutes.

Updated announcements will be made onboard the affected trains at appropriate intervals (usually every 10 minutes for the first 30 minutes and at least every 15 minutes thereafter).

Information about connections and onward travel will be available from the train manager.

## Delays in excess of 60 minutes affecting more than one service

Updated announcements will be made within the station every 10 minutes.

Updated announcements will be made onboard the affected trains at appropriate intervals (usually every 10 minutes for the first 30 minutes and at least every 15 minutes thereafter).

Information and help regarding connections and onward travel will be available from the train manager.

The train manager will make an announcement regarding the reason for the delay, the effect on arrival times and the level of compensation applicable.

Regular announcements about delay compensation will be made onboard the affected trains.

We will make every effort to give customers refreshments appropriate to the location and duration of the delay.

Where possible, passengers will be assisted with rebooking onward connections.

Where possible, taxis will be made available to customers when the delay

occurs late at night and public transport is unavailable.

Subject to availability we will book hotels for customers who cannot reach their onward connection or final destination on the same day and are unable to make their own arrangements.

# Delays in excess of 60 minutes affecting the majority of services

When major disruptions occur we will do our best to help our travellers with onward connections, refreshments, hotels and taxis. As well as the usual communication channels we will also provide further information through the local press and eurostar.com so customers can decide whether they still wish to continue their journey as booked.

# **Delay Compensation Policy**

For most<sup>1</sup> delays to Eurostar services we will make the following compensation available to customers:

Delays of 60-119 minutes - We offer a complimentary one-way journey in the same class of travel, or a 50% discount off a future return trip in the same class of travel. Alternatively, customers may claim a 25% refund of the affected leg of the journey.\*

Delays of 120-299 minutes - We offer customers a complimentary return journey in the same class as their original ticket. Or they may claim a 50% refund of the affected leg of the journey.\*

Delays of over 300 minutes - We offer a free return journey in the same class of travel, as well as a cash refund for the delayed leg.\*

\* Where customers have taken a return journey we calculate the price of the affected leg by adding together the prices of the outward and return journeys and dividing by two.

If customers choose the complimentary or discounted journey, they have one year from the date of the delay to book and travel.

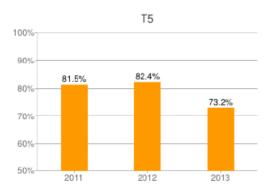
Percentage refunds will be provided by way of a Eurostar gift voucher or in cash and must be claimed within two months of the delay by contacting our Traveller Care Team with details of the original ticket.

To apply for a refund, customers should contact our <u>Traveller Care Team</u>.

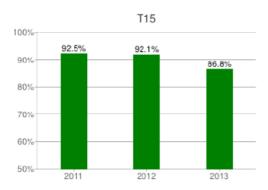
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Please note that delays caused by third parties not connected with the operation of the railway (including fatalities, vandalism, trespass, riots, war or terrorist activity), severe weather that is also affecting other modes of transport, acts of nature and fault on the part of the passenger are not eligible for compensation.

# Punctuality performance, 2011-2013 (2013 data is Jan-May)

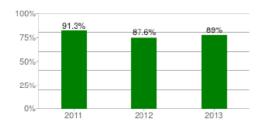
# T-5 (% of trains that arrived within five minutes of their scheduled arrival time)



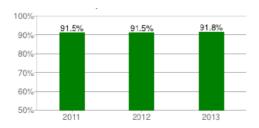
# T-15 (% of trains that arrived within five minutes of their scheduled arrival time)



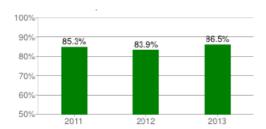
# Right time departure, Paris



# Right time departure, London



# Right time departure, Brussels



# **Cancellation of trains**

When trains are cancelled we provide the same information and help we give to customers affected by delays. If the reason for the cancellation is within Eurostar's control the same compensation policy applies.

If a train is cancelled and as a result there will be a delay in arrival at the destination station of more than 60 minutes, customers will be entitled to either a full refund of their ticket or can postpone their journey to a later date.

#### 3. Cleanliness

We clean our trains at their destination station after every journey and regularly carry out deep cleans when they go to one of our three depots. We conduct a minimum of 60 train cleaning audits each month.

Stations are also deep cleaned regularly and there are always cleaners present during our hours of operation to keep the station environment as clean, safe and clear of litter as possible. Each month we conduct a minimum of eight audits of our stations. All of these audits are accompanied by a representative from the cleaning supplier.

The basic principle behind the audits is that an area is assessed against a definition of 'What good looks like' and allocated a pass or fail. Appropriate weighting is applied to the scoring and any score below 90% would be considered unacceptable, except at times of major disruption. Present targets range from 93-95%, depending on the area.

# Air conditioning

All our trains are fully equipped with air conditioning. Should this fail our train manager will do everything he or she can to move customers to an alternative coach.

# **Performance: cleaning**

In Q4 2012 our customers rated the cleanliness of carriage interiors at 7.4 out of 10 (Paris route) and 7.6 out of 10 (Brussels route). The source is IPSOS customer satisfaction monitor.

#### 4. Customer satisfaction

# A. GFK Customer Satisfaction Survey

We continuously monitor customer satisfaction through two main sources. The first of these is an online survey, conducted by the independent market research agency GFK. In this survey we speak to approximately 10k customers every month; the questionnaire takes an average of eight minutes to complete.

This data is then carefully weighted to give us a good picture of what our customers think about key aspects of their Eurostar experience, such as booking, check-in, terminal, lounges, on board and catering. The survey also includes key questions about things like how likely they are to recommend and use Eurostar again, and value for money.

The results of this survey are used both by senior management to direct long term strategy, and tactically by customer-facing teams to help improve customer service. We receive results every month.

#### B. Fizzback

Through Fizzback, we use text messaging to and from customers' mobile phones to understand their opinion of our service. Their responses come through live on an online dashboard; this allows us to quickly identify service failures (or successes) and also gives us the facility to contact the customer again if necessary.

We use both "pull" (where we leave the Fizzback number on posters in stations and trains and wait for customers to contact us) and "push" (where we start the conversation with the customer) to both measure and improve customer satisfaction.

Since beginning our full relationship with Fizzback in July 2011, we have received c. 60k messages from customers.

# 5. Complaints and compensation

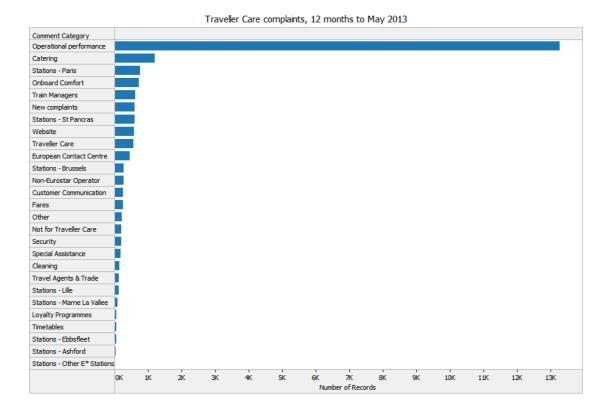
Our Traveller Care Team is here to correspond with customers who are unhappy with their experience of Eurostar. Appropriate compensation will be considered on a case by case basis.

Traveller Care aims to operate to the following standards:

- Telephone calls will be answered within 60 seconds
- Letters will be replied to within 7 working days
- Emails will be replied to within 24 working hours
- We will use the customer's preferred contact method when responding to a complaint.

Information on how to submit a complaint regarding our services is available via eurostar.com.

The table below shows a breakdown of all complaints dealt with by our Traveller Care team in the 12 months to May 2013. This team also responds in cases where customers praise our service and also passes on suggestions for changes to services as well as complaints and requests for compensation due to delays.



#### 6. Assistance

Customers who are disabled or have reduced mobility can have the following arrangements made for them:

Meet and greet at check-in at each station;

Wheelchair provision (if required) to take the customer through from check-in to the train;

Assistance through check-in, security and immigration authorities Help boarding the train;

Help disembarking from the train;

Assistance to the next stage of the journey, if making a connection.

In cases where the customer does not book ahead we will do our best to assist on an ad hoc basis.

Over the past year we have made considerable efforts to improve this part of our service, speaking to these customers regularly and using their opinions to change the way we operate. Our most recent piece of research was conducted by the independent agency GFK in April 2013. Although this research identified some areas for improvement (such as consistency of delivery during peak times), customers generally recounted positive experiences of using our assistance service.

# 7. Details of ticket office opening hours and European contact centre availability

# **Contact Centre opening times**

#### **Ashford Contact Centre - UK**

Monday to Friday, 08:00 to 19:00 08432 186 186 +44 1233 617 575

#### **Douai Contact Centre - Fr**

Monday to Sunday, 07:00 to 22:00 08 92 35 35 39

#### **Brussels Contact Centre**

Monday to Friday, 09:00 to 17:30 02 528 28 28

## **Ticket Office opening times**

#### **Paris Ticket Office**

Monday to Saturday, 06:00 to 21:00 Sunday and Bank Holidays, 07:20 to 21:00

#### **London Ticket Office**

Monday to Friday, 04:30 to 21:00 Saturday, 05:30 to 21:00 Sunday, 06:30 to 21:00

#### **Ashford Ticket Office**

Monday to Sunday, 11:00 to 16:00

#### **Ebbsfleet Ticket Office**

Monday to Sunday, 11.00 to 16.00

#### **Brussels Ticket Office**

Monday to Sunday, 06:00 to 22:00

#### **Calais Ticket Office**

Monday to Friday, 06:50 to 22:00 Saturday, 06:20 to 19:40 Sunday and Bank Holidays, 08:45 to 20:15

## **Lille Ticket Office**

Monday to Saturday, 05:45 to 22:00 Sunday and Bank Holidays, 07:30 to 22:00

# Marne-la-Vallée Ticket Office

Monday to Sunday, 06:30 to 22:00